



**THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA  
COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS/OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**

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**Information Regarding Power Issue at the  
Oakland Convention Center during the  
July 2012 California Bar Examination**

During administration of the examination at the Oakland Convention Center during the Tuesday, July 24, 2012, morning session, there was insufficient power for all laptops that had been brought into the test center. Many applicants were able to use their computers for all or part of the session because they had battery back-ups. Some applicants' batteries expired, however, before the end of the session, at which time they began writing their answers.

For the applicants who partially typed and handwrote their answers to essay questions 1, 2 and 3 and uploaded their exam files by the published deadline, the written and typed materials were combined after the laptop answers were printed. The answers have been submitted for grading in accordance with established policies and procedures. That a particular answer contains both typed and written pages is not a factor when grading the examination.

Shortly after administration of the examination this incident was reported to the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) and during its August 24, 2012 meeting, the Committee considered the matter and directed its measurement consultants to perform a psychometric study on whether the incident adversely impacted the affected applicants' performance at this test center during the first session of the examination. The results of the measurement consultants' study and any further actions the Committee may take in response to this incident will be published at the time results from the examination are released on November 16, 2012.

Applicants should be assured that the Committee will take the appropriate steps necessary to ensure all applicants are treated fairly, while at the same time not give one group of applicants an unwarranted advantage over others.